

REMARKS

The Examiner provides a number of rejections and we list them here in the order in which they are addressed:

- I. Claims 1-5 and 15-19 are rejected under 15 USC § 102(a) as being allegedly anticipated by the abstract of Gnatenko *et al.* (*Blood*, 94(10-Suppl Pt 1):181a (1999) from the 41st Annunal Meeting Of the American Society Of Hematology (New Orleans, LA; 12/3-7/1999).
- II. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 USC § 112 ¶ 2 as being allegedly indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim subject matter.
- III. Claim 11 is objected to for allegedly being dependent upon a rejected claim.

I. Claims 1-5 and 15-19 Are Not Anticipated

The Examiner asserts that Claims 1-5 and 15-19 are allegedly anticipated by Gnatenko *et al.* Without acquiescing to the Examiner's argument but to further the prosecution, and hereby expressly reserving the right to prosecute the original (or similar) claims, Applicants have canceled Claims 1-5 and 15-19. This renders the rejection moot.

II. Claim 14 Is Not Indefinite

The Examiner asserts that Claim 14 is unclear because "two cells [are] present in the method in part (a), but only uses one of the two specified cells, making it unclear which is used and which is not. Thus, there is no antecedent basis for the term "said cell" in part (b)." *Office Action*, pg 4. The Applicants disagree. Nonetheless, without acquiescing to the Examiner's argument but to further the prosecution, and hereby expressly reserving the right to prosecute the original (or similar) claims, Applicants have canceled Claim 14.

III. Claim 11 Is Not Objectionable

The Examiner objects to Claim 11 as being dependent upon a rejected claim (*i.e.*, Claim 2). As noted above, Claim 2 is now canceled thus making this objection moot. Further, the Applicants have amended Claim 11 to provide dependency to now allowed Claim 12. Applicants now believe that the objection should be withdrawn and Claim 11 allowed.

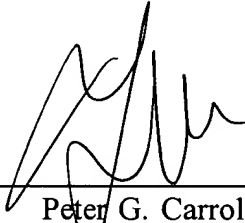
IV. New Claims 20-23 Have Specification Support

The Applicants now put forward new dependent claims in regards to the now allowed Claim 12. Specifically, Applicants request consideration of the recitation of specific cell types as described in the Applicants' specification (page 5 ln 6-24). As the Examiner is aware, due to the allowable nature of the independent Claim 12, all properly constructed dependent claims having specification support, must also be allowable.

CONCLUSION

The Applicants believe that the arguments and claim amendments set forth above traverse the Examiner's rejections and, therefore, request that all grounds for rejection be withdrawn for the reasons set above. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone interview would aid in the prosecution of this application, the Applicants encourage the Examiner to call the undersigned collect at 617.984.0616.

Dated: March 17, 2004



Peter G. Carroll
Registration No. 32,837

MEDLEN & CARROLL, LLP
380 Lexington Avenue, Suite 1700
New York, New York 10168
617.984.0616